

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend Figure 10 to include the legend "Prior Art". A replacement sheet for Figure 10 is submitted herewith.

REMARKS

I. Introduction

In response to the Office Action dated June 12, 2007, Applicants have amended claims 1, 6, 12, and 17 – 19 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 3 and 13 have been canceled. Care has been taken to avoid the introduction of new matter. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

II. Claim Objections

Claims 6 and 18 have been objected to as having minor informalities. Applicants have amended these claims as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim objections is requested.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 – 5, 7 – 16, and 20 – 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the related art discussion in the pending application in view of Liew (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0191319). Claims 6, 17, and 19 have been rejected under § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the related art discussion in the pending application in view of Liew, and further in view of IBM Technical Disclosure TBD NN9408185. Applicants traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites, among other things, an optical disk controller comprising processing means for reading the first and second software from the first memory and the second memory to independently perform the first processing and the second processing, the first processing

includes a seek control processing of performing a seek control of the optical disk, and a transmission processing of transmitting information indicating the storage location of data recorded on the optical disk, which includes defect management information indicating an alternative storage location of a defective block, to the second software, and the second processing includes a detection processing of detecting the storage location of data recorded on the optical disk based on the storage location information, and a notification processing of notifying a request for seeking the storage location, in which data detected by the detection process is recorded on the optical disk, to the first software.

In accordance with this configuration, by providing the first processing with the transmission processing, and providing the second processing with the detection processing and the notification processing, a customized part of a defect managing process unique to the CD-MRW standards can be allotted to the first processing, and a part of the same process common to any optical disk apparatus can be allotted to the second processing. This makes it possible to improve processing performance and to achieve high speed reproduction through the improvement in processing performance. Neither the related art nor Liew, alone or in combination with each other, disclose or suggest at least these features.

As depicted in Figure 10 (related art), CD-MRW processing is accomplished only by F/W 9. However, since F/W is inferior in processing speed to μ code, it is not possible to reproduce at a high speed in a point of the processing speed. The Examiner acknowledges that the related art does not disclose that the second processing includes a detection processing of detecting the storage location of data recorded on the optical disk based on the storage location information and a notification processing of notifying a request for seeking the storage location,

in which the data detected by the detection process is recorded on the disk, to the first software.

The Examiner relies on Liew to overcome this deficiency.

However, neither Liew nor the related art, alone or in combination with each other, disclose or suggest that the means for accomplishing the CD-MRW process is shared by the first processing and the second processing. While it appears that Liew discloses defect processing, there is no suggestion of sharing the novel processes unique to the CD-MRW standards by a first processing (F/W) and a second processing (μ code). Thus, the cited references fail to render independent claim 1, obvious because at a minimum, the references taken alone or in combination with one another fail to disclose this feature of claim 1.

Independent claims 12, 17, and 19 include features similar to those described above in reference to claim 1. Accordingly, these claims are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as provided above in reference to claim 1. Claims 2, 4 – 11, 14 – 16, 18, 20, and 21 depend from one of the independent claims. As such, these claims are patentable over the cited references at least by virtue of their dependency.

IV. Conclusion


Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Application No.: 10/765,835

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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